

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SEDU, TECH, TPHY, CH, US

SUBJ: AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC VISITORS TO THE PRC

REF(A) PEKING 1767, (B) PEKING 1762

1. THE INFLUX OF AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC VISITORS NOTED
IN REFTEL B HAS CONTINUED BUT ESCALATED WHEN
HUA KUO-GENG AND TENG HSIAO-PING RECEIVED NOBEL PRIZE
WINNER YANG CHEN-NING ON AUGUST 27 AND HUA -- WITHOUT
TENG -- RECEIVED NOBELIST TING CHAO-CHUNG ON
SEPTEMBER 5. THE "PEOPLE'S DAILY" CARRIED BOTH
EVENTS IN FRONT-PAGE COLOR PICTURES TO EMPHASIZE
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE OCCASIONS. ANG YI, VICE
CHAIRMAN AND DE FACTO HEAD OF THE CAS ; WU YU-HSUN,
VICE CHAIRMAN, AND CHU YUNG-HANG (WHO HANDLES
THE US IN THE CAS) ATTENDED BOTH MEETINGS.

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TANG WEN-SHENG OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, CHOU PEI-YUAN OF THE SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AND YUEH TAI-HENG
OF THE CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE ALSO ATTENDED
HUA'S RECEPTION OF YANG BUT NOT THAT OF TING.

2. DURING THE PREVIOUS WEEK, DR. NIU

MAN-CHIANG OF TEMPLE UNIVERSITY WAS RECEIVED BY TENG HSIAO-PING (REFTEL A) AND ON AUGUST 29 THE "PEOPLE'S DAILY" CARRIED AN ARTICLE ON THE FRONT PAGE ABOUT NIU'S REASEARCH WITH TUNG TI-CHOU ON THE USE OF RNA IN CHANGING THE GENETICS OF HIGHER PLANTS AND ANIMALS. NIU GAVE AN INTERVIEW TO PEKING RADIO JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE AUGUST 30 FOR THE US. FOR THE LAST FIVE SUMMERS, NIU HAS LIVED AT CHINESE EXPENSE AT THEPEKING HOTEL AN WORKED AT THE CAS INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGY.

3. THIS INCREASING ATTENTION TO SCIENTIFIC MATTERS BY THE PRC AND THE RECEPTION BY HUA AND TENG OBVIOUSLY SHOWS THE MPORTANCE ATTACHED TO IT SINCE TENG'S RESTORATION. THE FACT THAT YANG, TING AND NIU ARE SION-AMERICANS IS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST. YANG TOLD AN AMERICAN FRIEND HERE THAT HIS VISIT TO CHINA WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING THE PRC TO RE-ESTABLISH ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC TRAINING IN CHINA. YANG ADDED THAT HE TOUGHT THAT FOREIGN- TRAINED CHINESE LIKE HIMSELF HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS EFFORT. LIU HUA-CHING OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TOLD AMBASSADOR WOODCOCK SEPTEMBER 6 THAT "FRIENDLY SCIENTISTS" FROM THE

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US HAD AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN CHINA'S SOCIALIST ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION. PRESUMABLY HE WAS REFERRING TO CHINESE-AMERICAN SCIENTISTS.

5. COMMENT: THE USE OF FOREIGN-TRAINED CHINESE SCIENTISTS TO HELP FILL CHINA'S TECHNOLOGY GAP WOULD BE A NATURAL STEP. THESE SCIENTISTS, MOST OF WHOM WERE TRAINED IN THE US, HAVE BOTH THESCIENTIFIC AND LINGUISTIC ABILITY TO BRING THE LATEST IN SCIENCE TO CHINA. YANG AND TING'S PARTICIPATION SHOULD GIVE THE ENTERPRISE PRESTIGE. HOWEVER, MANY AMERICAN-TRAINED CHINESE MIGHT NOT BE WILLING TO ACCEPT THE RESTRAINTS IMPOSED HERE, AND ANY LARGE- SCALE USE OF CHINESE SCIENTISTSABROAD MIGHT ENTAIL SOME CONFLICT BETWEEN THEM AND THEIR LESS FAVORED CHINESE COLLEAGUES.

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